



Fig. 4. Ilastning av grus i N. Devon, England för transport till Nordamerika. Illustration ur "The faunal connections between Europe and North America".

Mycket skulle kunna sägas om betydelsen av Carls vetenskapliga gärning och jag hoppas det finns tillfälle att göra det i något senare sammanhang. Något berörs i de efterföljande artiklarna.

En annan sida av Carls vetenskapliga verksamhet är hans kontakter med andra entomologer. Genom sitt öppna och gemytliga sätt och engagemang i olika entomologiska sammanhang – han deltog mycket flitigt i internationella och nordiska kongresser – kom Carl att knyta kontakter med kolleger världen över, kontakter som han var mycket mån om att sköta. Han svarade alltid prompt på brev och var alltid beredd att hjälpa den, som bad om det. Carls personintresse finns dokumenterat i de drygt 80 biografierna han skrivit för olika entomologiska tidskrifter.

Genom sin framgångsrika verksamhet inom

entomologins olika områden kom Carl att bli centralgestalten inom den nordiska entomologin och en i internationella sammanhang högt uppskattad forskare. Därom vittnar de många hedersbetygelser han erhållit från vetenskapliga sammanslutningar världen över.

Det är omöjligt för en enda person att belysa mångfalden i Carls entomologiska verksamhet. Därför har några kolleger och vänner till Carl i de efterföljande artiklarna givit sina omdömen från sina något olika utgångspunkter.

Alla vi som kände Carl och arbetat tillsammans med honom minns honom med tacksamhet. Han har lärt oss mycket.

Per Douwes

Carl H. Lindroth – The Nearctic Experience

Carl Lindroth's interest in the northern reaches of the Nearctic Region developed from a more general interest in the history of the biota of Holarctica during Quaternary and Holocene time. This more general interest was a direct

outgrowth of his earlier studies of the insect fauna of Iceland, and of the Fennoscandian carabid fauna. He set out to investigate the faunal connections between Europe and northeastern North America, believing initially that some rat-

her marked similarities between carabid faunas of the two areas could be explained by early Pleistocene or late Tertiary land connections which had been previously postulated. Newfoundland seemed the place to begin, for it had a moderately diverse fauna, with many western European species.

In 1949, Carl visited Newfoundland in the company of three Finnish entomologists. He returned alone in 1951 to complete his inventory of the carabid fauna of that subarctic island. From this field work and from museum work that he conducted in the United States and Canada, he learned two things: first, that the western European association of insects in Newfoundland had probably been accidentally introduced there in historical times by man; and second, that the North American carabid fauna was very inadequately known. Encouraged by Philip J. Darlington, Jr. (then Curator of Insects, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University), Carl decided to revise the carabid species of Canada and Alaska.

During the period 1953–1969, he produced a series of concisely and clearly written papers and books, the most important of which were: "The Faunal Connections between Europe and North America" (1957); "The Aleutian Islands as a Route of Dispersal across the North Pacific" (1964); "The Fauna History of Newfoundland" (1963); and "The Ground-Beetles of Canada and Alaska" (1961–1969). "The Faunal Connections" described and explained the mass importation of European, principally geophile, eurytopic insects into the New World by means of commerce generally, and specifically in the ballast of sailing ships. Another major conclusion of the book was that most faunal similarities between Old and New Worlds were more likely to have resulted from natural dispersals by way of Beringia. His study of the carabid fauna of the Aleutian Islands demonstrated that the Archipelago had probably not been an important dispersal route for the Holarctic Carabidae, though its geographical position and flora would tempt one to believe otherwise. Analysis of the Newfoundland fauna presented additional evidence for the existence of a late-glacial refugium on that island, and this was important for understanding the composition of the extant fauna of eastern Canada.

His magnificent treatise, published in five

parts, on the carabid species of the north, brought in essentially one bold stroke, taxonomic order out of chaos, and laid a firm foundation for the work of the present generation of carabid specialists, as well as for those yet to come. This monograph is characterized by superb illustrations, workable keys to genera and species, excellent diagnostic descriptions that give in a minimum of words a clear statement about how to recognize adults of each species, and information about habitat, distribution and way of life of the species.

But this work is more than a handbook for identification. It contains a useful classification of the higher taxa of carabids, and of the more diverse genera. It displays, in fact, Carl's genius as a classifier. Even though formal classification was not one of his major interests, he had a flair for it. He did not care about nomenclature either, but his thoroughness in all things insured that he brought to light and solved correctly many problems that were inherent in use of specific names by previous authors.

Carl's approach to faunistic work was direct and pragmatic. If species were groups of biologically distinctive organisms, then it should be possible to recognize the former in the field. He found this to be so for carabids. His fine eye, aided by hand lenses, and keen memory, enabled him to assign individuals in the field to their correct species. If one can recognize species *in situ*, one can also recognize habitats in which they occur. He did this, as well. This knowledge was the cornerstone on which he erected his concepts, which in turn served as the basis for consideration of the more general problems of the Holarctic biota.

His revision of the North American carabids required extensive field work, and I was fortunate enough to be with him during 1956 and 1958, in western Canada and Alaska. We were together again on Kodiak Island in 1962, as two members of a party of five scientists, investigating a Wisconsinan age nunatak on that island.

In the course of these trips, I came to know him as an intense, observant, and highly efficient collector. I also came to know him as a delightful, urbane person because of his particular manifestation of those traits that govern interrelations between humans (interest in the concerns of others; generosity and cooperativeness; a whimsical, mildly self-deprecating sense of hu-

mor expressed on numerous occasions and appropriately so; a desire to share the delight of new discoveries, to offer sympathy in times of disappointment, to avoid anger; to listen attentively to the views of others). I witnessed and shared his delight in meeting a number of amateur coleopterists in western Canada, and appreciated the respect that he accorded them for the quality and quantity of their knowledge and insights gained under less than ideal circumstances.

Studies in the entomological collections of the North American museums brought him in contact with the professional systematists of this continent, and with many he formed lasting friendships. And, he delighted in meeting students, and in sharing his experiences with them. When he departed from an institution, he left behind well determined collections of Carabidae, and a wealth of good will.

Although he was accorded international re-

cognition for his achievements, Carl remained modest, and retained his interest in gathering fresh data to shed new light on old but unsolved problems.

Carl Lindroth was a superb systematic biologist and as fine a human being as I have had the good fortune to know. For us North Americans, his publications will continue to provide guidance in our systematic work. For me, my memories of him will provide inspiration and pleasure until my own life ends.

We – your friends and colleagues – are grateful, Carl Hildebrand Lindroth, for the privilege we enjoyed in knowing you, and in sharing part of your life. Though we shall miss you, what you have left for us and what we have learned from you make it possible to accept with equanimity your abrupt departure. *Pax tecum.*

George E. Ball

Människan bakom verket

När Carl H. Lindroth 1951 kom till Lund som professor i entomologi, nåddes ett mål som han länge strävat efter. Sedan skolåldern intresserad av insekter inriktade han sig tidigt på en akademisk karriär. Men det stöd han fick av studieårens professorer i zoologi var ringa eller intet. I Stockholm smålog Nils Holmgren överseende åt Carls intressen – ”det är kandidaten som samlar fjärilar, tror jag” – och talade varmt för fiskarnas kranieutveckling, ett fält där professorn bildat skola. Efter ämbetsexamen fortsatte Carl sina studier i Uppsala, där Sven Petrus Ekman var verksam – en flitig och känd faunautforskare och djurgeograf. Fältarbetet för Carls doktorsavhandling om Islands insektsfauna gav ett rikt material, men Ekmans metod kom knappast till användning vare sig vid insamlingen eller analys. När manuskriptet till avhandlingen var klart, överräcktes det förväntansfullt till ämnesrepresentanten. Efter veckor av väntan återfick Carl det. Förutom några formella påpekanden var enda kommentaren en hänvisning till en skrift av Einar Lönnberg (1898), vilken Carl pliktskyldigast införde. Fakultetsopponenten Douglas Melin brukade inte spara på krutet: respondenten fick lida mycken smälek för tillägget.

Avhandlingen gav inte den väntade docenturen. Möjligheterna att efter förvärvat doktorsgrad försörja sig vid universiteten var då än mindre än i dag. Efter ett kort mellanspel vid den tidens växtskyddsanstalt började Carl sin långa vandring som lärare vid de svenska läroverken.

Under 18 år var Carl lärare – utan att ge avkall på sin föresats att forska för att bli forskare. Förvisso satte lärargärningen gränser för hans forskning: tyngdpunkten låg länge vid systematik och faunistik, arbetsuppgifter som inte krävde fasta program utan kunde utföras på lediga stunder och som heller inte tog större ekonomiska resurser i anspråk. Men åren som läroverkslärare gav honom också möjlighet att utveckla talanger som blev en stor tillgång för honom i hans senare verksamhet som akademisk forskare och lärare. Med stark vilja och en sträng arbetsdisciplin genomförde han sin forskning, jämsides med andra arbetsuppgifter, en stor korrespondens och sociala engagemang. Han fick med tiden en ovanlig förmåga att arbeta koncentrerat och ostört även i en orolig omgivning: en talang som – föreföll det mig – utvecklades inte minst i hans stora och livliga familj. Han tillägnade sig den breda och djupa kunskap, som utmärkte en